

## Message Text

PAGE 01 STATE 058390

12

ORIGIN NEA-04

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 /005 R

66664

DRAFTED BY: NEA/ PAB: JHHOLMES

APPROVED BY: NEA/ PAB: LBLAINGEN

----- 061392

R 292256 Z MAR 73

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD

UNCLAS STATE 058390

FOLL SENT ACTION SECSTATE INFO BOMBAY CALCUTTA MADRAS FROM NEW DELHI

22 MAR 73 REPEATED TO YOU QUOTE

UNCLAS NEW DELHI 3300

E. O. 11652: N/ A

TAGS: MOPU, IN, BG

SUBJECT: REPORTED STORY ON US MINES IN CHITTAGONG HARBOR

REF: A) CALCUTTA 488 B) STATE 051678

1. INTERVIEW REPORTED IN REFTEL A WAS GIVEN IN NEWIDELHI IN MID- JANUARY TO MR. JOTIRMOY DATTA ( JD) OF THE HINDUSTHAN STANDARD OF CALCUTTA IN THE PRESENCE OF MRM SHARDA PRASAD, DIRECTOR OF INFORMATION TO THE PRIME MINISTER. IT APPEARED IN THE SUNDAY HINDUSTHAN STANDARD' S COLOR MAGAZINE " SUNDAY" OF MARCH 18, 1973. COMPLETE EXCERPT UNDER THE HEADINV " PROWLER IN THE BAY" RAN AS FOLLOWS:

2. BEGIN

QUOTE:

JD: BY WE, I MEANT THE INTELLECTUALS. THE MIDDLE CLASS. THE INDIAN MIDDLE CLASS AT LEAST WAS PANICKY AT THE IDIA OF OF A FOREIGN FLEET PROWLING IN THE INDIAN OCEAN. THERE WERE INSPIRED LEAKS AND RUMOURS FROM AMERICAN SOURCES THAT SUCH A FLEET WAS COMING TO THE AID OF THE PAKISTAN ARMY. LATER UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 02 STATE 058390

STATEMENTS BY THE SPOKESMEN OF THE INDIAN GOVERNMENT HAVE SHOWN THAT THE AMERICAN FLEET HAD BEEN ACTIVELY MINING THE

CHITTAGONG HARBOUR.

THE PRIME MINISTER: THEY WERE. THEY WERE.

JD: SO, THEY WERE NOT ON A PLEASURE CRUISE OF THE SPICE ISLAND.  
HOW DID THE GOVERNMENT OF INDIA TAKE THAT?

THE PRIME MINISTER: CALMLY, AS YOU SAW. ( SHE SMILES. SHE  
PONDERS, WITH A WHIMSICAL AIR).... AFTER ALL, WHAT COULD THE FLEET  
DO TO US. AS A MATTER OF FACT I THINK THAT ANYTHING LIKE THAT HELPS  
TO STRENGTHEN YOUR RESOLVE. END QUOTE. MOYNIHAN UNQUOTE ROGERS

UNCLASSIFIED

<< END OF DOCUMENT >>

## Message Attributes

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